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SECRET 020220Z MAY 69 CITE [REDACTED]

25X1A

DIRECTOR

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REF BOOK DISPATCH [REDACTED]

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1. THIS STATION BECAME AWARE OF THE GENERAL CONTENTS OF REF IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE POST TRANSPORTATION OFFICE [REDACTED] 29 APRIL 69.

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2. AS SEVERAL [REDACTED] PERSONNEL HAVE PURCHASED U.S. MANUFACTURED FIREARMS THROUGH LOCAL POST EXCHANGES AND/OR GUN CLUBS SINCE 16 DECEMBER 1968, WITHOUT ANY KNOWLEDGE OF IMPORTATION RESTRICTIONS, THE QUESTION OF PECUNIARY RELIEF BECOMES PERTINENT.

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3. INVESTIGATION INTO THIS PROBLEM LOCALLY, PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF REF, DEVELOPED THAT THE ARMY AND THE AIR FORCE ARE FOLLOWING DIFFERENT POLICIES CONCERNED WITH THE APPLICATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE GUN CONTROL ACT TO CIVILIAN PERSONNEL OF THE MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT. THE ARMY POLICY IS THE SAME AS THAT SET FORTH IN REF, WHILE THE AIR FORCE POLICY TREATS CIVILIANS AND MILITARY ALIKE. THE LATTER IS SET FORTH IN 5TH AF MSG DTG 180737Z DEC 68.

4. THE PROVISION OF 2C(1) OF REF SEEM EXTREMELY IMPRACTICAL, AS IT IS UNLIKELY THAT AN INDIVIDUAL, IN MOST CASES, WOULD KNOW OF

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AN ARMS DEALER IN THEIR STATE WITH WHOM SUCH A RELATIONSHIP COULD BE ESTABLISHED. THOSE BELONGING TO A GUN CLUB WOULD POSSIBLE BE BETTER OFF IN THIS RESPECT. PERHAPS HEADQUARTERS COULD FURNISH A LIST OF SEVERAL DEALERS IN VIRGINIA, MARYLAND AND D.C. FROM WHICH PERSONNEL COULD MAKE A SELECTION.

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5. HOWEVER THE INSTANT PROBLEM IS ASSOCIATED WITH THOSE PERSONNEL, CAUGHT IN THE WEB, WHO ARE PCSING TO CONUS THIS SUMMER. FYI, PCS MOVEMENTS HAVE ALREADY BEGUN.

6. IN VIEW OF THE LACK OF OFFICIAL GUIDANCE FROM HEADQUARTERS PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF REF, AS WELL AS THE CONFLICT BETWEEN ARMY AND AIR FORCE REGULATIONS MENTIONED ABOVE, REQUEST HEADQUARTERS CONSIDER SEEKING RELIEF AT LEAST FOR THOSE WHO PURCHASED U.S. WEAPONS IN GOOD FAITH AFTER 16 DEC AND BEFORE 1 MAY 69 (DATE OF RECEIPT OF REF). IT SHOULD BE REITERATED THAT THE ARMY RECEIVED THEIR INSTRUCTION THE WEEK OF 21 APR 69 AND THE TRANSPORTATION OFFICER WAS ADVISED 29 APR 69.

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